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U. S. OFFICIALS ONLYCENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT Development of Bosnia and Herzegovina
and Communications with Adjacent Areas

DIST. 11 May 1947

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1. Realizing the impossibility of carrying out Soviet instructions for a planned economy in Yugoslavia without resorting to forced labor, the Tito government has ordered the mobilization in 1947 of at least a million young people for "voluntary labor" under the aegis of SKOJ.
2. To them falls the task of executing Tito's Five-Year Plan and in particular that part of it which the Soviet Military Mission in Yugoslavia considers most necessary to Soviet military interests in the Balkans, e.g. the construction of standard gauge railways and of motor roads.
3. The interest of Soviet military specialists has been directed to the area comprising the Federal Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in view of its great strategic importance as a Yugoslav national redoubt, and special attention has been given to this area in Tito's Five-Year Plan.
4. Bosnia and Herzegovina are to become the Soviet arsenal in the Balkans, and Yugoslavia's heavy industry is to be concentrated in this area which is to become a military base of the first magnitude.
5. The presence of iron ore in the valley of the Bosna river, in the vicinity of Vares, and of high quality coal in the basin round Kakanj and Zenica will facilitate realization of the Plan which provides for the establishment of large metallurgical plants in the Zenica-Glovo-Sarajevo areas as the center of Yugoslavia's heavy industry.
6. The first step in the development of this plan is the construction of a standard gauge, i.e. the 240 km. Samac-Sarajevo railway, to link this area with other parts of Yugoslavia.
7. This line will require the construction of numerous bridges as well as of a considerable tunnel in the gorge of the Bosna river near Vranduk.
8. Surveys and preliminary work as well as the conveyance of the necessary material to site are complete, and workshops have been set up at Doboj, Zepce, Zenica and Visoko.
9. Earthwork which is scheduled to commence on 1 April 1947 will be carried out by unpaid labor, e.g. by young people (boys and girls between 16 and 21) working in contingents of 180,000 for two months at a time. SKOJ strength

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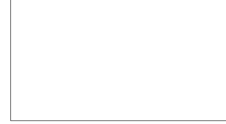
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on this job is to be brought up to 360,000 in May and will remain at this figure until 1 November.

10. In addition, work is to be carried out on repairing, widening and adapting existing roads in Bosnia to motor traffic, in particular the Gradiska Bosanska-Banja Luka-Travnik-Sarajevo-Mostar-Dubrovnik road.
11. The conversion of the Fiume- Susak- Karlovac- Zagreb road into a first-class autostrada is in hand, while work on the Zagreb-Varazdin autostrada is now complete. Intensive work is also being carried out on motor roads in Slovenia and in the Vojvodina.

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